

Summary of February 5, 2002 Financial Assistance Council

1. Carrie Berry was introduced as the Financial Assistance Section Manager while Steve Carley is on active duty on the next year.
2. Bruce Crawford from IAC provided an overview of the work being conducted regarding implementation of SB5637. He also responded to questions on involvement by eastside cities and the public in general.
3. Kim McKee started a discussion with the Council on whether the current BMP list that is eligible for funding should be revisited. Revisiting this issue is rooted in the fact that there are now many other programs also providing financial assistance and some are different than Ecology's. Kim will continue this discussion with the Council at the next meeting. See http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/council/02_05_02/mckee.pdf for a link to the presentation materials.
4. Megan provided an opportunity for discussion of legislative initiatives.
5. Brian Howard reviewed the Ecology's decision to not change the FY03 guidelines to allow for design/build projects beyond \$1 million until there was more study of what other states are doing, and defining how likely it is that design build will occur for WWTPs within the state of Washington. A small work group will be formed to work on this, then report back to the Financial Assistance Council. In the mean time if a facility chooses to do design build, then it can still work on an interim basis by requesting interim refinancing after construction has started.
6. Brian Howard also gave us summary of the changes that occurred to the guidance before it was finalized. The guidance changes were based on the comments from the Financial Assistance Council and other stakeholders.
7. The next meeting will be on April 2, 2002. Possible topics will include continued discussion on design/build, eligible BMPs, the use of the aquatic habitat guidelines being developed and a JLARC update.